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ABSTRACT

This report examines the trends in Black undergraduate enrollments at Pennsylvania colleges and universities and postsecondary education participation rates for Pennsylvania's Black high school graduating classes for the 1980s. Enrollment trends for all undergraduates, full-time undergraduates, first-time undergraduates and for part-time undergraduates are examined separately. Then the numbers and proportions of Black high school graduates annually continuing their education are examined. Though the focus of the report is on Black students, enrollment trends for White students are also reported for comparison. Highlights of the report's findings include the following: the number of Black full-time students dropped by 8.5 percent, Black student enrollments fell by 24 percent at two-year colleges, by 15.8 percent at four-year private colleges, and by 11.5 percent at State Universities though they increased by 13.5 percent at state-related universities. In contrast, White full-time undergraduate enrollments increased by 11 percent at four-year public universities and community colleges. The numbers of both Black and White students who were enrolled as first-time, full-time students decreased between 1980 and 1989 though the numbers for Black students decreased by almost 19 percent while the numbers of White students decreased by less than 2 percent. (JB)

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TRENDS IN BLACK STUDENTS' COLLEGE ENROLLMENTS AND PARTICIPATION RATES IN PENNSYLVANIA, 1980 TO 1989

by

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April, 1991

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report describes the trends in Black undergraduate enrollments in Pennsylvania colleges and universities and in postsecondary education participation rates for Pennsylvania's Black high school graduating classes for the 1980s. Enrollment trends for all undergraduates, full-time undergraduates, first-time undergraduates and for part-time undergraduates are examined separately. Then the numbers and proportions of black high school graduates annually continuing their education are examined. The focus of the report is on Black students but, to add perspective to the data, enrollment trends for White students also are reported.

The total numbers of Black undergraduates enrolled in Pennsylvania colleges in 1980 and 1989 were almost identical, with 72 fewer students attending in the latter year. But White enrollments increased by over 24 percent during the decade. Black student enrollments fell by about 6 percent between 1980 and 1985, but then returned to nearly their 1980 level while White student enrollments steadily increased. Total Black enrollments decreased during the decade at all institutional types but state-related universities, where they increased by over 24 percent.

While the total number of Black undergraduates decreased only slightly, the number attending full-time dropped by 8.5 percent, representing 1,792 students. Black student enrollments fell by 24.4 percent at two-year colleges, by 15.8 percent at four-year private colleges and by 11.5 percent at State Universities, but they increased by 13.5 percent at state-related universities.

White full-time undergraduate enrollments increased by 11.1 percent, growing by 21.4 percent at four-year public universities and by 11.1 percent at community colleges, but increasing by less than 1 percent at four-year private colleges and falling by 9.1 percent at two-year private colleges.

Black students were, throughout the decade, less likely than White students to have been enrolled on a full-time basis. But the proportions of both groups enrolling full-time decreased during the decade so that, by 1989, they were more similarly likely to have been full-timers, 69.2 percent for White students and 62.8 percent for Black students.

The numbers of both Black and White students who were enrolled as first-time, full-time students decreased between 1980 and 1989. However, the numbers for Black students decreased by almost 19 percent while the numbers for White students decreased by less than 2 percent. First-time, full-time Black student enrollments decreased at all institutional types but state-related universities. These institutions increased their enrollments by 17.4 percent while all other institutions' enrollments of first-time, full-time Black students decreased by almost 28 percent. First-time, full-time White student enrollments decreased only at four-year private colleges (by 6.9 percent) and community colleges (by 9.1 percent) while growing by 6.9 percent at all other institutional types.

The numbers of part-time Black and White students increased at nearly all institutional types during the decade. However, the rate of increase for Black students was only one-fourth as great, 17.7 percent versus 68.9 percent. Just as other enrollment categories for Black students increased at state-

related universities, so did part-time Black undergraduate enrollments, by 77.3 percent.

The numbers of high school graduates decreased throughout the decade, but the proportions of Black and White students continuing their education increased substantially. From 1983 to 1989, the years for which data were available, the proportion of continuing Black male graduates increased from 47.5 percent to 53.7 percent while the proportion for Black females grew from 56.6 percent to 65.7 percent. Even though proportionately more Black graduates continued their education, their postsecondary education participation rates lagged behind the growth for White graduates. The participation rate for White females grew from 52.8 percent to 68.2 percent; the rate for White males, from 51.4 percent to 61.7 percent.

Although there are positive findings in the trends in participation rates for Black high school graduates, the absence of growth in undergraduate enrollments for all Black undergraduates, in absolute terms and in terms relative to White undergraduates, suggests that it has become relatively more difficult for Black students to enroll in Pennsylvania colleges and universities. Were it not for substantial increases in enrollments at state-related universities and their branch campuses, Black undergraduate enrollments in total would have shown a very substantial decrease for the decade.

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Introduction

During the 1980s, the proportions of Pennsylvania Black and White high school graduates who entered postsecondary education increased substantially. However, the total numbers of Black undergraduates enrolled in Pennsylvania postsecondary institutions generally decreased. This report provides information on these and other trends in the enrollments and participation rates of Black undergraduates who attended Pennsylvania postsecondary institutions between academic years 1980-81 and 1989-90. The report emphasizes the enrollments of Black undergraduates, since their enrollment patterns changed signficantly throughout the decade. But White enrollment data are described to add perspective to the data for Black students.

Enrollment data for Black and White undergraduates come from annual surveys of Pennsylvania postsecondary institutions conducted by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). These data include the number of Black and White undergraduates from Pennsylvania and other states who were enrolled in Commonwealth institutions. The PDE provides the total number of students enrolled by race, by types of institutions (four-year private colleges, State Universities, state-related universities, two-year private colleges and two-year public colleges), and by enrollment status (full-time and part-time undergraduates and first-time, full-time freshmen). The PDE also provides annual reports on surveys of Pennsylvania high schools that show the number of Black and White public and non-public high school graduates who enrolled in postsecondary institutions in the Commonwealth and in other states. Because precise data on Black and White enrollments in four-year and two-year private colleges were not available for 1985-86, 1987-88 and 1989-90, estimates for these years were used.

The first section of the report describes the total number of Black and White undergraduates enrolled in Pennsylvania postsecondary institutions during the 1980s. Later sections provide information on the number of students enrolled by enrollment status and institutional type and show how postsecondary participation rates by race and gender for Pennsylvania high school graduates changed. Each section presents data on both the number and proportion of Black and White undergraduates enrolled by type of institution. Tables and graphs are also used to illustrate enrollment trends by institutional type. The report concludes by summarizing possible reasons for the decreasing numbers of Black undergraduates.

Total Undergraduate Enrollments

Between 1980 and 1989, the total number of Black undergraduates enrolled full-time or part-time in Pennsylvania institutions decreased slightly, while White enrollments increased substantially. Table One shows that total Black undergraduate enrollments decreased by only 72 students (0.2 percent), while White enrollments increased by 81,587 students (24.2 percent). Much of the decline in Black enrollments occurred between 1980-81 and 1985-86, when these enrollments fell from 30,847 to approximately 29,041 (5.9 percent). After 1986, Black enrollments returned to nearly their 1980-81 levels. White enrollments, however, increased steadily throughout the decade, rising from 337,061 in 1980-81 to 418,648 in 1989-90.

These Black enrollment trends are further illustrated in Figure One, which shows that throughout the 1980s enrollments of Black undergraduates generally decreased in nearly all types of postsecondary institutions. The decline was steepest in two-year private institutions, which fell from 1,185 in 1980-81 to approximately 697 in 1989-90, a loss of 41.2 percent. Black enrollments at State Universities and two-year public colleges (community colleges) fell by 9.9 percent, while enrollments at four-year private institutions fell by only 1.2 percent. Black enrollments at state-related universities fell slightly in the first years of the decade, but increased from 7,022 in 1982-83 to 9,065 in 1989-90. For the decade, Black enrollments at state-related universities increased by 24.3 percent.

Throughout the 1980s, the largest number of Black undergraduates were enrolled at community colleges, followed by state-related universities, private four-year colleges and State Universities. However, the proportion of Blacks enrolled at community colleges fell from 34.9 percent of all Black undergraduates in 1980-81 to 31.8 percent in 1989-90. At the same time, the proportion enrolled at state-related universities rose from 23.6 percent to 29.5 percent. The proportion of Blacks enrolled at four-year private institutions remained at about 21 percent, while the proportion enrolled at two-year private colleges declined slightly, from 3.8 percent to 2.2 percent.

While total Black undergraduate enrollments were decreasing, the numbers of White full-time and part-time undergraduates were increasing in all types of postsecondary institutions throughout the decade. White enrollments increased by 32.1 percent at state-related universities, 31.8 percent at State Universities, 29.5 percent at community colleges, 14.4 percent at four-year private colleges and 6.1 percent in two-year private institutions.

The largest number of White undergradutes were enrolled in four-year private colleges, followed by state-related universities, community colleges and State Universities. However, the proportion of all Whites enrolled in four-year private colleges decreased from 39.5 percent in 1980-81 to 36.4 percent in 1989-90, while the proportions enrolled in other types of institutions increased slightly, except for two-year private colleges, which enrolled only 1 percent of all White undergraduates throughout the 1980s.

Full-Time Undergraduate Enrollments

While the total number of Black undergraduates decreased only slightly, Table Two shows that the number of Black full-time undergraduates declined by 8.5 percent (1,792 students) between 1980 and 1989. Black full-time enrollments declined by over 46 percent at two-year private colleges, by over 20 percent at community colleges, by 16 percent in private four-year colleges and by 11 percent in State Universities. Black full-time enrollments increased only at state-related universities, rising by 13 percent. The decade's loss in Black enrollments was ameliorated by the fact that, between 1986-87 and 1989-90, enrollments increased from 18,892 to an estimated 19,317. Trends in enrollments of full-time Black undergraduates are further illustrated in Figure Two.

While Black enrollments decreased, White full-time enrollments increased from 260,807 to 289,861 (11.1 percent) during the 1980s. White enrollment numbers remained stable at private four-year colleges and community colleges,

Table One
Enrollments of All Undergraduate Students
By Race and Institutional Types, 1980-81 to 1989-90

Black Students

	1980-81		1982-83		1984-85		1985-86		1986-87	
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct
4-Yr Private	6,484	21.0%	6,283	21.0%	5,721	19.4%	5,355*	18.4%	6,214	21.1%
State University	5,129	16.7	4,571	15.3	4,348	14.7	3,957	13.6	4,300	14.5
State-Related	7,294	23.6	7,022	23.4	7,096	24.0	7,673	26.4	8,790	29.8
2-Yr Private	1,185	3.8	1,055	3.5	859	2.9	908*	3.1	814	2.8
2-Yr Public	10,755	34.9	11,010	36.8	11,510	39.0	11,148	38.4	9,359	31.8
All Colleges	30,847	100.0%	29,941	100.0%	29,534	100.0%	29,041*	100.0%	29,477	100.0%

White Students

	1980-81		1982-83		1984-85		1985-86		1986-87	
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct
4-Yr Private	133,148	39.5%	136,176	38.6%	135,861	38.1%	134,678*	38.2%	150,914	38.4%
State University	59,891	17.8	62,857	17.8	65,981	18.4	66,585	18.9	71,084	18.1
State-Related	74,833	22.2	76,979	21.8	76,949	21.6	74,784	21.2	90,201	23.0
2-Yr Private	4,904	1.4	5,106	1.4	4,498	1.3	4,755*	1.3	5,410	1.4
2-Yr Public	64,285	19.1	71,387	20.4	73,441	20.6	71,532	20.3	74,926	19.1
All Colleges	337,061	100.0%	352,505	100.0%	356,730	100.0%	352,334*	100.0%	392,535	100.0%

* Estimated

Data for 1981-82 and 1983-84 are not available.

Table One (continued)

Black Students

	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90		
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	10-Yr Change
4-Yr Private	6,217*	21.3%	6,373	21.7%	6,406*	20.8%	-1.2%
State University	4,513	15.5	4,234	14.4	4,620	15.0	-9.9
State-Related	8,517	29.2	8,876	30.2	9,065	29.5	24.3
2-Yr Private	773*	2.7	710	2.4	697*	2.2	41.2
2-Yr Public	9,130	31.3	9,156	31.2	9,987	32.5	-7.1
All Colleges	29,150*	100.0%	29,349	100.0%	30,775*	100.0%	-0.2%

White Students

	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90		
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	10-Yr Change
4-Yr Private	151,009*	38.0%	151,572	37.0%	152,367*	36.4%	14.4%
State University	72,965	18.4	76,902	18.8	78,964	18.9	31.8
State-Related	92,490	23.3	94,552	23.1	98,888	23.6	32.1
2-Yr Private	5,138*	1.2	5,295	1.3	5,201*	1.2	6.1
2-Yr Public	76,018	19.1	81,161	19.8	83,228	19.9	29.5
All Colleges	397,620*	100.0%	409,482	100.0%	418,648*	100.0%	24.2%

* Estimated.

Data for 1981-82 and 1983-84 are not available.

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Figure One

BLACK UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENTS 1980-81 TO 1989-90

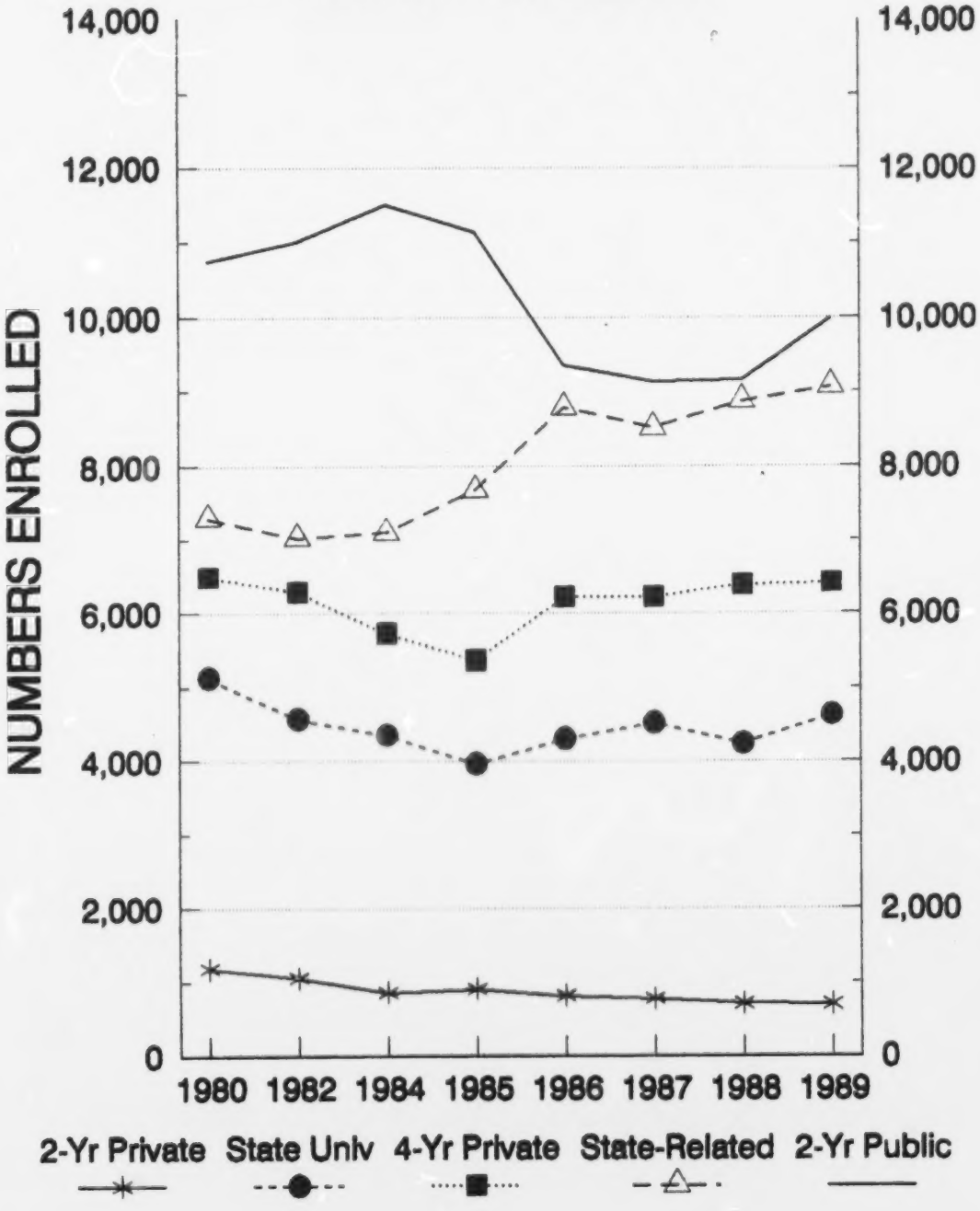

Table Two
Enrollments of Full-Time Undergraduate Students
By Race and Institutional Types, 1980-81 to 1989-90

Black Students

	1980-81		1982-83		1984-85		1985-86		1986-87	
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct
4-Yr Private	5,105	24.2%	4,754	23.7%	4,353	22.3%	4,332*	21.6%	4,213	22.3%
State University	4,779	22.6	4,224	21.1	3,967	20.3	3,648	18.2	3,850	20.4
State-Related	6,067	28.7	5,953	29.7	6,274	32.1	6,610	33.0	6,917	36.6
2-Yr Private	840	4.0	649	3.2	609	3.1	640*	3.2	541	2.9
2-Yr Public	4,318	20.5	4,478	22.3	4,332	22.2	4,817	24.0	3,371	17.8
All Colleges	21,109	100.0%	20,058	100.0%	19,535	100.0%	20,047*	100.0%	18,892	100.0%

White Students

	1980-81		1982-83		1984-85		1985-86		1986-87	
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct
4-Yr Private	112,093	43.0%	111,747	41.9%	111,029	41.7%	110,483*	41.7%	111,110	41.1%
State University	54,007	20.7	56,667	21.2	58,734	22.1	59,421	22.5	60,898	22.5
State-Related	64,900	24.9	66,301	24.9	64,265	24.2	64,383	24.3	69,206	25.6
2-Yr Private	3,584	1.4	3,649	1.4	3,498	1.3	3,681*	1.4	3,509	1.3
2-Yr Public	26,223	10.0	28,352	10.6	28,581	10.7	26,793	10.1	25,745	9.5
All Colleges	260,807	100.0%	266,716	100.0%	266,107	100.0%	264,761*	100.0%	270,468	100.0%

* Estimated

Data for 1981-82 and 1983-84 are not available.

Table Two (continued)

Black Students

	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90		
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	10-Yr Change
4-Yr Private	4,152*	22.0%	4,264	22.8%	4,298*	22.2%	-15.8%
State University	4,166	22.1	3,874	20.7	4,230	21.9	-11.5
State-Related	6,718	35.6	6,937	37.1	6,889	35.7	13.5
2-Yr Private	526*	2.8	471	2.5	451*	2.3	-46.3
2-Yr Public	3,301	17.5	3,145	16.8	3,449	17.9	-20.1
All Colleges	18,863*	100.0%	18,691	100.0%	19,317*	100.0%	- 8.5%

White Students

	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90		
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	10-Yr Change
4-Yr Private	111,895*	40.5%	112,206	39.5%	113,091*	39.0%	0.9%
State University	63,077	22.8	65,393	23.0	67,244	23.2	24.5
State-Related	71,426	25.9	73,868	26.0	77,144	26.7	18.9
2-Yr Private	3,416*	1.2	3,403	1.2	3,258*	1.1	- 9.1
2-Yr Public	26,382	9.6	29,437	10.3	29,124	10.0	11.1
All Colleges	276,196*	100.0%	284,307	100.0%	289,861*	100.0%	11.1%

* Estimated

Data for 1981-82 and 1983-84 are not available.

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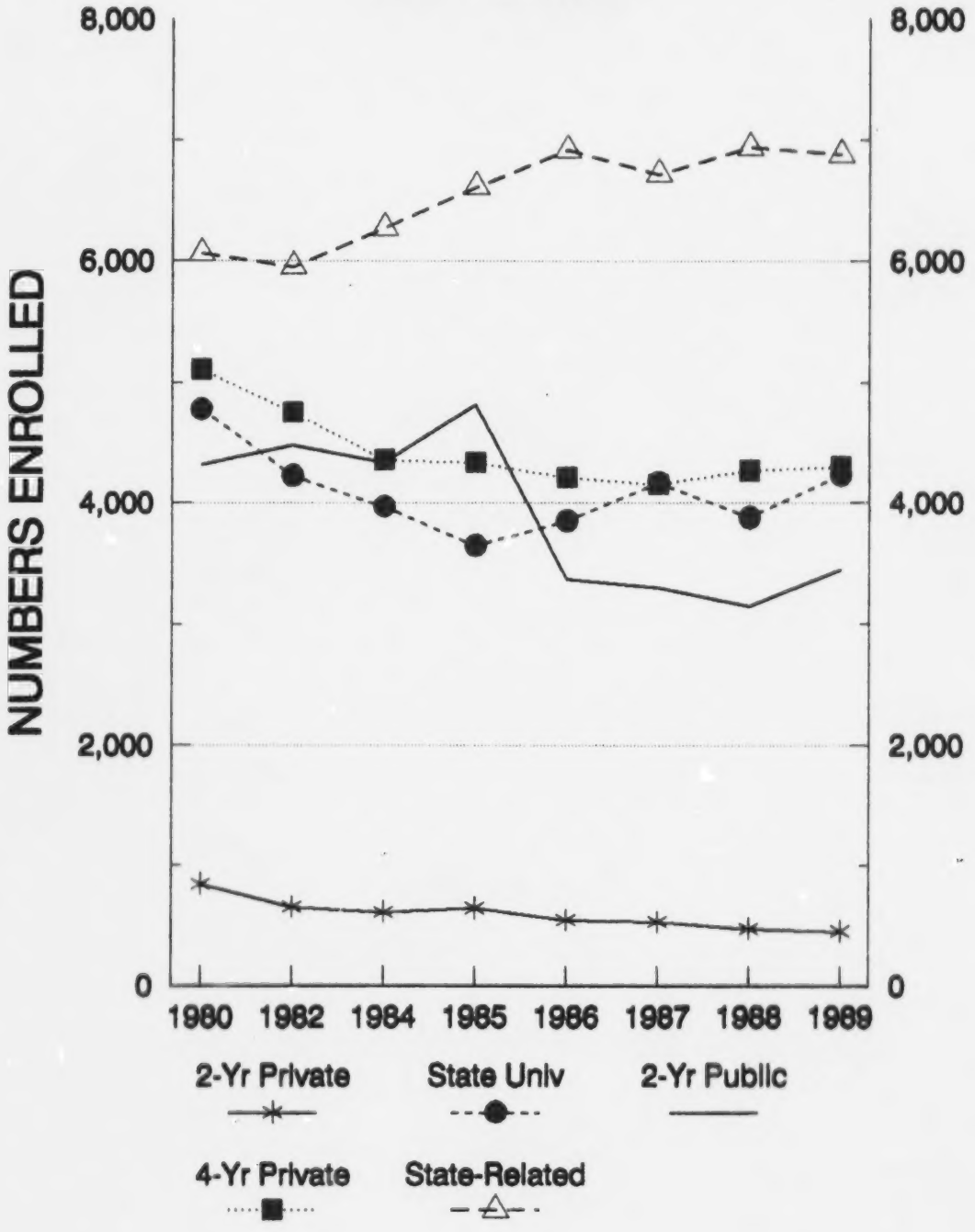
Figure Two

FULL-TIME BLACK UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENTS

1980-81 TO 1989-90



but increased sharply at state-related universities and State Universities. Full-time White enrollments increased from 54,007 in 1980-81 to 67,244 in 1989-90 (24.9 percent) at State Universities, and increased from 64,900 to 77,144 (18.9 percent) at state-related universities. At the same time, full-time enrollments in four-year private colleges increased by only 1 percent, but declined by 9 percent in two-year private institutions, between 1980-81 and 1989-90.

While proportionally more Black full-time undergraduates were enrolled at state-related universities, more Whites were enrolled at four-year private institutions. However, while the proportion of Blacks enrolled full-time at state-related universities increased from 29 percent of all full-time Black undergraduates in 1980-81 to 36 percent in 1989-90, the proportion of Whites at four-year private institutions decreased slightly, from 43 percent to 39 percent. The proportion of Whites enrolled full-time at state-related universities increased from 25 percent to 27 percent, and increased at State Universities from 21 percent to 23 percent.

Overall, the proportion of Blacks enrolled full-time in all types of institutions declined from 68.4 percent of all Black undergraduates in 1980-81 to 62.8 percent in 1989-90, while the proportion of White full-time students declined from 77.4 percent to 69.2 percent. Thus, throughout the decade, Whites were more likely to be full-time students. But Black and White students were more similarly likely to have enrolled full-time at the end of the decade.

First-Time, Full-Time Undergraduate Enrollments

The numbers of Black and White first-time, full-time undergraduates also declined during the 1980s. However, the decline was much greater for Blacks. Table Three shows that Black first-time, full-time enrollments decreased by 18.9 percent (1,289 students), while White enrollments decreased by only 1.4 percent (1,001 students).

Two-year private colleges saw the biggest percentage loss in enrollments of first-time, full-time Black freshmen--from 407 to 267 (34.4 percent)--followed by State Universities (27.5 percent), four-year private colleges (23.9 percent) and community colleges (20.9 percent). Much of these decreases occurred in the first five years of the decade; enrollments at State Universities, for example, fell from 1,836 in 1980-81 to 975 in 1985-86, but increased to 1,331 in 1989-90. First-time enrollments at state-related universities increased by 17.4 percent. These enrollment trends are further illustrated in Figure Three.

At the beginning of the decade, the most Black full-time freshmen were enrolled at State Universities, followed by community colleges, four-year private colleges, state-related universities and two-year private colleges. However, in 1989-90, state-related universities enrolled the most Black first-time, full-time students. The proportion of these students enrolled in state-related universities increased from 19.9 percent of all Black first-time freshmen in 1980-81 to 28.7 percent in 1989-90. The proportion of students enrolled in community colleges increased from 25.7 percent in 1980-81 to 31.4 percent in 1982-83, but then fell to 22.2 percent in 1989-90. The proportions of Black first-time freshmen in other types of institutions remained

Table Three
Enrollments of First-Time, Full-Time Undergraduate Students
By Race and Institutional Types, 1980-81 to 1989-90

Black Students

	1980-81		1982-83		1984-85		1985-86		1986-87	
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct
4-Yr Private	1,476	21.6%	1,235	19.5%	1,172	20.1%	1,120*	20.1%	1,117	20.5%
State University	1,836	26.8	1,391	21.9	1,054	19.1	975	17.5	1,210	22.2
State-Related	1,359	19.9	1,466	23.1	1,786	30.6	1,756	31.5	1,584	29.0
2-Yr Private	407	6.0	255	4.1	289	5.0	316*	5.6	297	5.4
2-Yr Public	1,760	25.7	1,992	31.4	1,531	26.3	1,404	25.2	1,249	22.9
All Colleges	6,838	100.0%	6,339	100.0%	5,832	100.0%	5,571*	100.0%	5,457	100.0%

White Students

	1980-81		1982-83		1984-85		1985-86		1986-87	
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct
4-Yr Private	30,548	41.6%	28,891	39.6%	29,454	41.3%	28,152*	40.5%	27,850	40.0%
State University	14,162	19.3	14,394	19.7	14,432	20.3	14,187	20.4	14,964	21.5
State-Related	15,261	20.8	14,843	20.3	14,262	20.0	15,007	21.6	15,000	21.5
2-Yr Private	1,709	2.3	1,624	2.3	1,696	2.4	1,860*	2.6	1,756	2.5
2-Yr Public	11,737	16.0	13,242	18.1	11,412	16.0	10,371	14.9	10,100	14.5
All Colleges	73,417	100.0%	72,994	100.0%	71,256	100.0%	69,577*	100.0%	69,670	100.0%

* Estimated
Data for 1981-82 and 1983-84 are not available.

Table Three (continued)

Black Students

	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90		
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	10-Yr Change
4-Yr Private	1,125*	21.4%	1,137	21.3%	1,123*	20.2%	-23.9%
State University	1,119	21.3	1,077	20.2	1,331	24.0	-27.5
State-Related	1,598	30.5	1,729	32.4	1,595	28.7	17.4
2-Yr Private	280*	5.3	242	4.5	267*	4.8	-34.4
2-Yr Public	1,123	21.4	1,156	21.6	1,233	22.2	-29.9
All Colleges	5,245*	100.0%	5,341	100.0%	5,549*	100.0%	-18.9%

White Students

	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90		
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	10-Yr Change
4-Yr Private	28,125*	39.6%	28,818	39.3%	28,452*	39.3%	- 6.9%
State University	14,735	20.7	14,600	19.9	15,324	21.2	8.2
State-Related	15,610	22.0	15,865	21.6	16,155	22.3	5.9
2-Yr Private	1,680*	2.4	1,641	2.2	1,811*	2.5	6.0
2-Yr Public	10,915	15.3	12,380	16.9	10,674	14.7	- 9.1
All Colleges	71,065*	100.0%	73,304	100.0%	72,416*	100.0%	- 1.4%

* Estimated

Data for 1981-82 and 1983-84 are not available.

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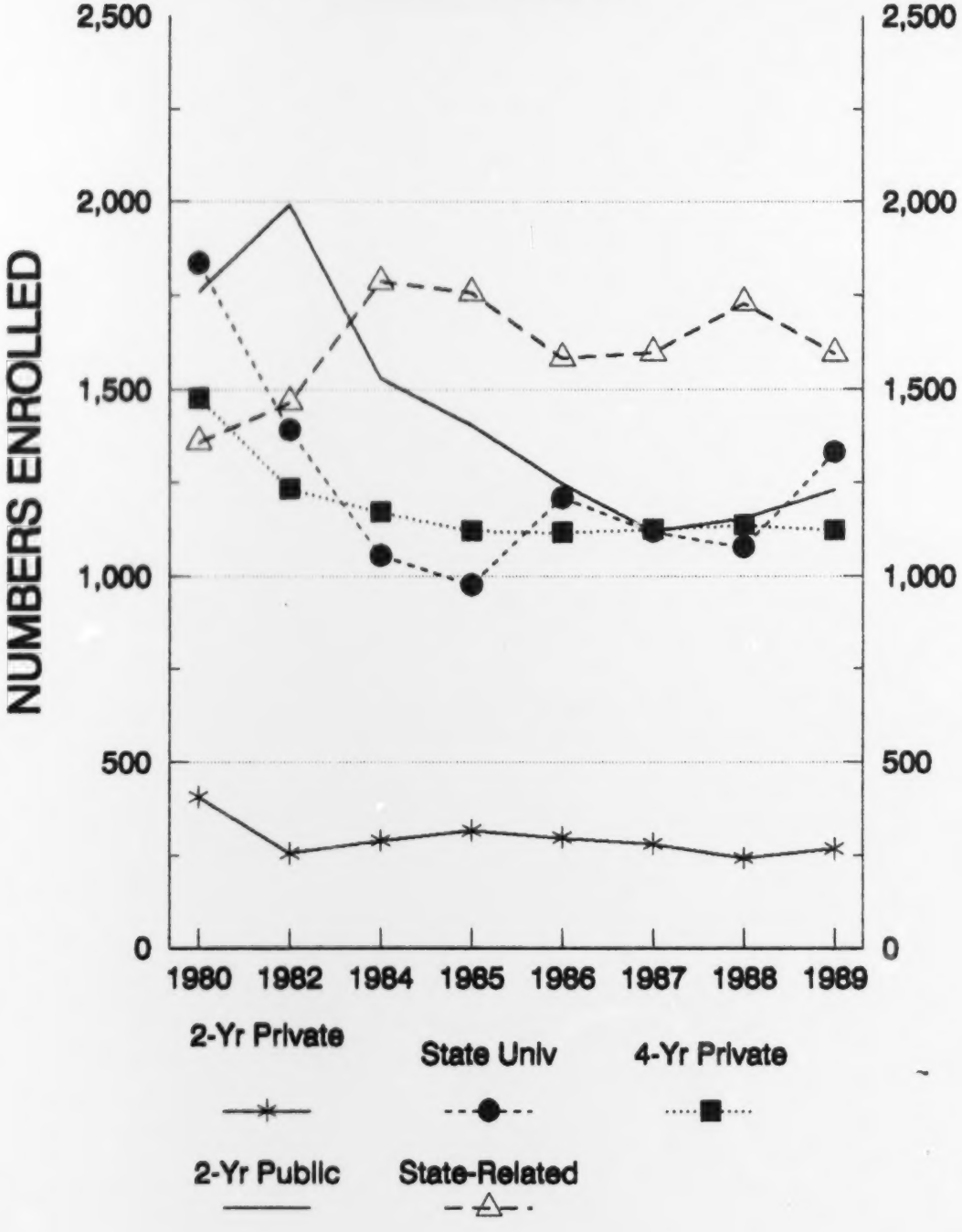
Figure Three
FIRST-TIME BLACK UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENTS
1980-81 TO 1989-90



relatively stable throughout the decade. Thus, during the decade, an increasing number of Black first-time, full-time freshmen enrolled at state-related universities, while proportionately fewer enrolled at other types of institutions.

First-time, full-time enrollments of White undergraduates in four-year private institutions declined by 6.9 percent, and in community colleges by 9.1 percent. But increasing enrollments in the other types of institutions nearly made up for these losses. The most White first-time, full-time freshmen were enrolled at four-year private colleges. However, the proportion of White freshmen at these institutions decreased slightly--from 41.6 percent in 1980-81 to 39.3 percent in 1989-90. The proportions of White first-time freshmen at community colleges also fell slightly, while the percentages enrolled in State Universities, state-related universities and two-year private colleges increased.

Part-Time Undergraduate Enrollments

Although the number of Black full-time students decreased and the number of White full-time students increased between 1980 and 1989, the number of part-time students in both groups increased in nearly all types of institutions during the 1980s. Table Four shows that the total number of Black undergraduates enrolled part-time increased by 17.7 percent, from 9,738 in 1980-81 to 11,458 in 1989-90. The part-time enrollment growth rate for Whites was about four times as great, 68.9 percent, from 76,254 to 128,787.

State-related universities experienced the highest increases in part-time enrollments. Black part-time enrollments in these institutions increased from 1,227 in 1980-81 to 2,176 in 1989-90 (77.3 percent), while White enrollments more than doubled--from 9,933 to 21,744 (118.9 percent). Part-time enrollments also increased substantially in four-year private colleges, with Black part-time enrollments increasing by 52.9 percent, and White enrollments increasing by 86.5 percent. Part-time enrollments for Blacks at two-year private colleges decreased by 28.7 percent--from 345 to 246--while part-time enrollments for Whites increased by 47.2 percent, from 1,320 to 1,943. Trends in Black part-time enrollments by institutional type are further illustrated in Figure 4.

The proportions of all undergraduates enrolled part-time also increased for both Whites and Blacks. The proportion of White part-time undergraduates rose from 22.6 percent of all White undergraduates in 1980-81 to 30.8 percent in 1989-90, while the proportion of Black part-time students increased from 31.6 percent to 37.2 percent. The largest proportion of Black and White part-time students were enrolled at community colleges. However, the proportions of part-time students at these colleges fell from 66.1 percent to 57.1 percent for Blacks and from 49.9 percent to 42.0 percent for Whites. The proportions of Black and White students who were part-time at two-year private colleges also declined.

Participation Rates

Now that the trends in undergraduate enrollments of students from all states enrolled in Pennsylvania postsecondary institutions have been examined,

Table Four
Enrollments of Part-Time Undergraduate Students
By Race and Institutional Types, 1980-81 to 1989-90

Black Students

	1980-81		1982-83		1984-85		1985-86		1986-87	
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct
4-Yr Private	1,379	14.2%	1,529	15.5%	1,368	13.7%	1,023*	11.4%	2,001	18.9%
State University	350	3.6	347	3.5	381	3.8	309	3.4	450	4.3
State-Related	1,227	12.6	1,069	10.8	822	8.2	1,063	11.8	1,873	17.7
2-Yr Private	345	3.5	406	4.1	250	2.5	268*	3.0	273	2.6
2-Yr Public	6,437	66.1	6,532	66.1	7,178	71.8	6,331	70.4	5,988	56.5
All Colleges	9,738	100.0%	9,883	100.0%	9,999	100.0%	8,994*	100.0%	10,585	100.0%

White Students

	1980-81		1982-83		1984-85		1985-86		1986-87	
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct
4-Yr Private	21,055	27.6%	24,429	28.5%	24,832	27.4%	24,195*	27.6%	39,804	32.6%
State University	5,884	7.7	6,190	7.2	7,247	8.0	7,164	8.2	10,186	8.3
State-Related	9,933	13.0	10,678	12.4	12,684	14.0	10,401	11.9	20,995	17.2
2-Yr Private	1,320	1.8	1,457	1.7	1,000	1.1	1,074*	1.2	1,901	1.6
2-Yr Public	38,062	49.9	43,035	50.2	44,860	49.5	44,739	51.1	49,181	40.3
All Colleges	76,254	100.0%	85,789	100.0%	90,623	100.0%	87,573*	100.0%	122,067	100.0%

* Estimated

Data for 1981-82 and 1983-84 are not available.

Table Four (continued)

Black Students

	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90		
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	10-Yr Change
4-Yr Private	2,065*	20.1%	2,109	19.8%	2,108*	18.4%	52.9%
State University	347	3.4	360	3.4	390	3.4	11.4
State-Related	1,799	17.5	1,939	18.2	2,176	19.0	77.3
2-Yr Private	247*	2.4	239	2.2	246*	2.1	-28.7
2-Yr Public	5,829	56.6	6,011	56.4	6,538	57.1	1.6
All Colleges	10,287*	100.0%	10,658	100.0%	11,458*	100.0%	17.7%

White Students

	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90		
	N	Pct	N	Pct	N	Pct	10-Yr Change
4-Yr Private	39,114*	32.3%	39,366	31.4%	39,276*	30.5%	86.5%
State University	9,888	8.1	11,509	9.3	11,720	9.1	99.2
State-Related	21,064	17.3	20,684	16.5	21,744	16.9	118.9
2-Yr Private	1,722*	1.4	1,892	1.5	1,943*	1.5	47.2
2-Yr Public	49,636	40.9	51,724	41.3	54,104	42.0	42.1
All Colleges	121,424*	100.0%	125,175	100.0%	128,787*	100.0%	68.9%

* Estimated

Data for 1981-82 and 1983-84 are not available.

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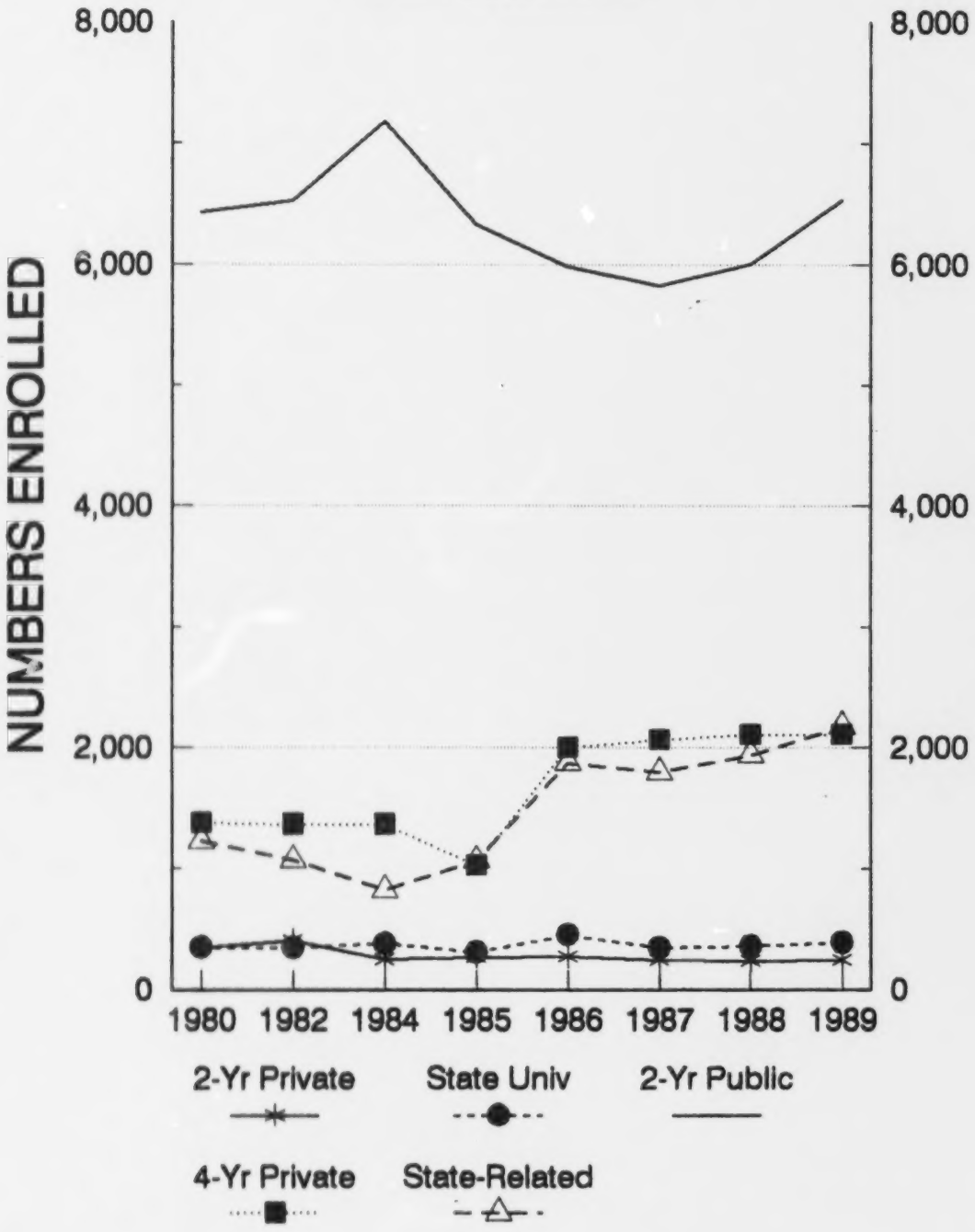
Figure Four

PART-TIME BLACK UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENTS
1980-81 TO 1989-90



it is appropriate to show the trends in Pennyslvania high school graduates enrolled in college. The changes in the number and proportions of Black and White Pennsylvania public and non-public high school seniors who planned on attending college, as evidenced by their taking the College Board's Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), are displayed in Figure Five and Table Five. These proportions include the number of seniors who planned to attend a public or private four-year college. The data indicate that the percentages of Black and White "college-bound" seniors increased throughout the 1980s, although the proportion of White students dipped slightly between 1988 and 1989. The percentage of "college-bound" White seniors increased from 47.7 percent in 1982-83 (the earliest year of available data) to 58.3 percent in 1989-90, while the percentage of "college-bound" Blacks increased from 38.1 percent to 46.7 percent. Although the proportion of "college-bound" Blacks and Whites increased, the annual percentages for Whites were consistently greater than for Blacks and the difference between them increased from 9.6 percentage points in 1982-83 to 11.6 percentage ponints in 1989-90.

Table Six shows participation rates for Black and White male and female high school graduates who entered four-year colleges, community colleges and business-trade schools from 1983 (the earliest year of available data) to 1989. White females had the highest participation rates, followed by Black females, White males and Black males. Differences in participation rates by gender were greater among Blacks than Whites. Black females, in 1989, were 12 percent more likely than Black males to attend postsecondary institutions, while White females were 6.5 percent more likely to attend than White males. Further, White males were 8 percent more likely to attend postsecondary institutions than Black males, while White females were just 2.5 percent more likely to attend than Black females.

Participation rates for Whites grew faster than those for Blacks. From 1983 to 1989, White female participation rates increased by 15.4 percentage points, followed by White males, 10.3 percentage points; Black females, 9.1 percentage points and Black males, 6.2 percentage points.

Types of Institutions High School Graduates Attended

During the 1980s, Pennsylvania's Black high school graduates who entered higher education were more likely than Whites to attend out-of-state institutions and community colleges. Table Seven shows the types of postsecondary institutions Pennsylvania public and non-public high school graduates attended, by race and gender, from 1983 to 1989. The table shows that the proportion of Black males who attended out-of-state institutions increased from 21.9 percent of those who entered higher education in 1983 to 25.3 percent in 1989, while the rate for Black females increased from 18.5 percent to 22.7 percent. The proportion of White students who attended out-of-state colleges also increased, but by smaller margins. The proportion of Black males enrolled in community colleges also increased, from 17.1 percent to 18.3 percent, while the proportion of Black females who attended these colleges increased from 19.2 percent to 20.0 percent.

Proportionately more White high school graduates than their Black peers attended four-year colleges and universities in Pennsylvania. In 1983, 62.3 percent of White males and 59.2 percent of White females entered public or private four-year institutions in the Commonwealth, while only 52.1 percent of Black males and 50.2 percent of Black females attended these colleges. By

Table Five
Numbers of High School Graduates and SAT Test-Takers,
By Race, 1982-1989

	Black Students			White Students		
	Graduates	Test-Takers	Percent	Graduates	Test-Takers	Percent
1982	13,782	5,256	38.1%	151,239	72,094	47.7%
1984	13,256	4,944	37.3	138,669	68,260	49.2
1985	12,781	4,779	37.4	133,963	67,636	50.5
1986	12,706	5,082	40.0	129,352	70,109	54.2
1987	11,994	5,142	42.9	127,469	73,961	58.0
1988	12,769	5,676	44.4	129,606	77,141	59.5
1989	11,706	5,467	46.7	123,928	72,198	58.3

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Figure Five
PERCENTAGES OF COLLEGE-BOUND HS SENIORS, 1981-82 TO 1989-90

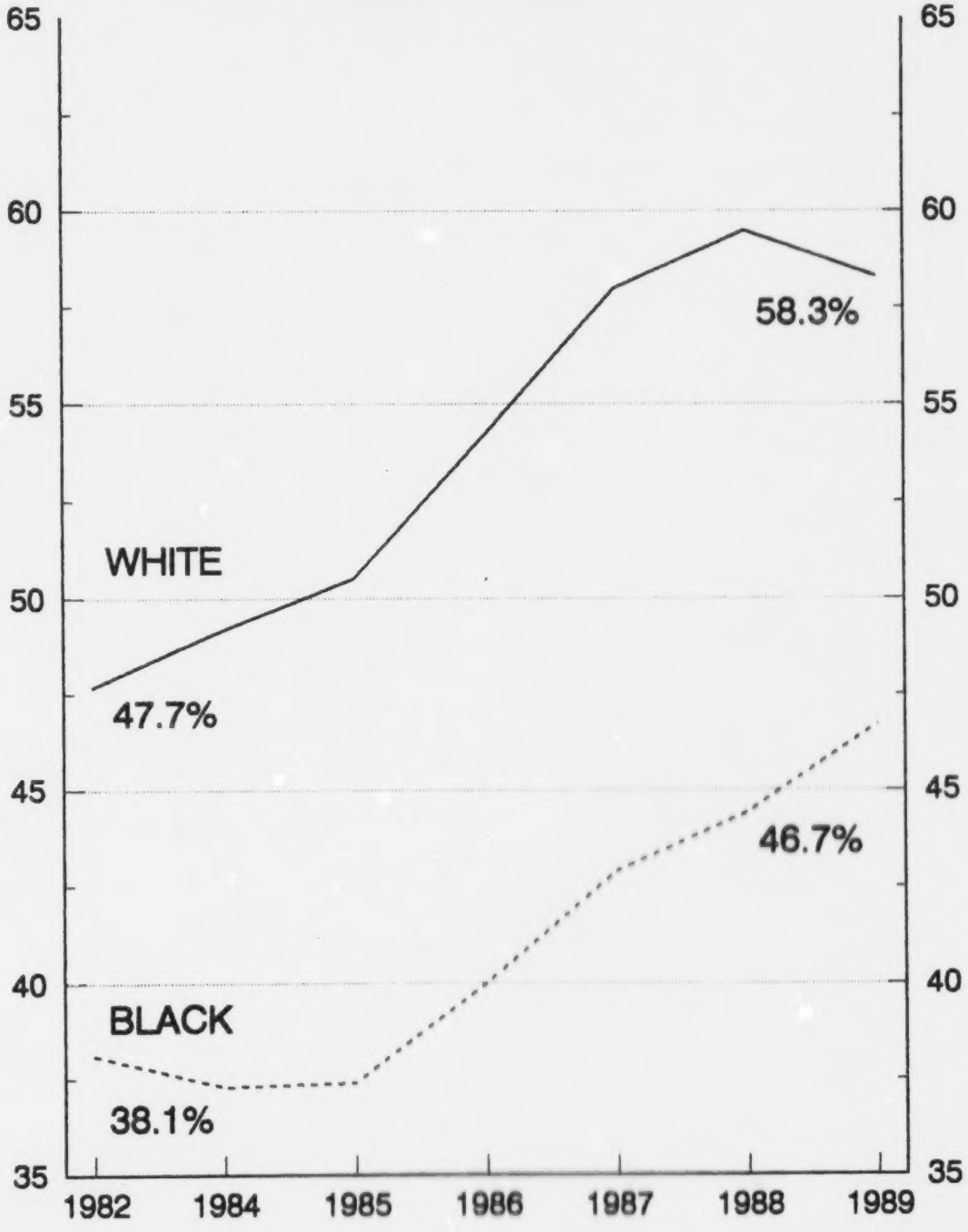

Table Six
Percentages of High School
Graduates Continuing Their Education
By Race, 1983 to 1989

	Black Males	Black Females	White Males	White Females
1983	47.5%	56.6%	51.4%	52.8%
1984	46.7	54.1	52.6	54.3
1985	45.4	52.1	54.3	57.2
1986	46.5	56.7	56.4	59.5
1987	49.5	57.6	58.2	63.0
1988	51.0	61.0	59.6	65.2
1989	53.7	65.7	61.7	68.2
Difference	+ 6.2	+ 9.1	+10.3	+15.4

Table Seven
Types of Institutions Attended By
High School Graduates, By Race and Gender

	1983 Males		1983 Females	
	Black	White	Black	White
4-Year Public	38.9%	41.2%	36.1%	37.7%
4-Year Private	13.2	21.1	14.1	21.5
2-Year Public	17.1	13.3	19.2	15.5
2-Year Private	3.2	1.4	4.4	2.6
Business/Trade	5.7	5.9	7.7	6.8
Out-of-State	21.9	17.1	18.5	15.9
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

	1989 Males		1989 Females	
	Black	White	Black	White
4-Year Public	34.0%	38.3%	35.7%	37.2%
4-Year Private	16.2	20.0	12.9	19.9
2-Year Public	18.3	15.0	20.0	15.2
2-Year Private	2.0	1.6	3.2	3.0
Business/Trade	4.2	4.9	5.5	6.9
Out-of-State	25.3	20.2	22.7	17.8
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

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1989, the proportions of Whites entering Commonwealth four-year colleges had declined to 58.3 percent for males and 57.1 percent for females, while the percentages for Blacks decreased to 50.2 percent for males and 48.6 percent for females. The percentage point decreases were greater for Whites than Blacks. Therefore, by the end of the decade, Black and White graduates were more similarly likely to have attended four-year Pennsylvania colleges.

Summary

Substantically higher percentages of Pennsylvania's Black and White high school graduates entered postsecondary institutions during the 1980s. The numbers of continuing high school graduates decreased for both groups because the number of graduates decreased, but greater proportions of Black and White graduates identified themselves as "college-bound" by taking the SAT, and greater proportions of both groups enrolled in some type of postsecondary institution. Significantly, proportionately more Black high school graduates enrolled in colleges in other states. Participation rates for White high school graduates grew faster than those for Blacks, but the increases for both groups were positive.

However, the overall number of White undergraduates attending Pennsylvania colleges increased substantially during the 1980s, while the number of Blacks decreased. White students generally were more likely to attend four-year private colleges, and to be enrolled full-time. Black students, on the other hand, were more likely to attend state-related universities and community colleges, and to enroll part-time. And, while participation rates by race and gender increased, rates for Black males were lowest. Thus, much of the increases in participation rates for Blacks apparently were due to rising participation by Black females.

Enrollments of Black and White students in four-year private colleges dropped slightly, but their enrollments in community colleges and two-year private colleges declined significantly. Full-time enrollments, and first-time, full-time enrollments also declined for both groups, but the decreases for Blacks were greater in all types of institutions except state-related universities.

Rising costs of postsecondary education may have partially caused these trends. Higher costs of attending higher education, especially costs at four-year private colleges, may have made it more difficult for students to attend, and may have made it more difficult for students to attend full-time. This is especially true for Black students, who tend to come from low-income families. Higher costs probably were not as much a restraint for relatively higher-income Black families as for lower-income ones, as an increasing number of these higher-income families appear to have been able to bear the costs of sending their children to out-of-state colleges. Conversely, many lower-income Blacks apparently were unable to attend higher education, and an increasing percentage of those who did enroll attended community colleges, or attended part-time.

Student financial aid should be increased in order to reverse the negative trends in Black undergraduate enrollments. Since many Blacks come from low-income families, and higher costs have made it more difficult for high school graduates from such families to enroll, increasing financial

aid--especially grant aid--will help more of these families afford the costs of postsecondary education. Increasing financial aid will also help more Black low-income students attend Pennsylvania's four-year colleges.

However, postsecondary institutions, high schools and Black parents will also have to become involved if the negative trends in Black undergraduate enrollments trends are to be reversed. Postsecondary institutions will have to recruit more seniors from inner-city high schools, where most Black high school students are enrolled. These recruitment efforts should provide students with details on the types of educational choices available to them, and the types of financial aid they could be eligible to receive. High schools must help students choose the types of postsecondary education that will be most successful for them. And, perhaps most important, Black parents must continue to encourage and inspire their children to pursue a college education.

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